

ment of funds which took place in banks during the last one year;

(b) the details of involvement, if any, of bank officials in these cases; and

(c) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Information regarding cases of 'embezzlement' of funds as such is not reported by the banks. However, according to information received from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), there were 1559 cases of frauds reported by 28 public sector banks during the year 1991.

(b) Case-wise details of involvement of bank officials is not readily available. Moreover, the time and effort involved in collecting this information will not be commensurate with the result likely to be achieved. However, individual cases are monitored at the level of the banks after due investigation and inquiry till final action is taken. The overall position in a bank-wise manner is monitored in the Ministry of Finance as well as in the Central Vigilance Commission.

(c) RBI has reported that during the year 1991, 50 employees of public sector banks were convicted and 699 employees were given major/minor penalties for their involvement in frauds irrespective of the date of occurrence.

[Translation]

Trade Agreement with France and Egypt

6907. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any trade agreement has

been made with France and Egypt recently; and

(b) if so, the good which are proposed to be encouraged for trade with these countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) and (b). A meeting of the Indo-French Joint Committee was held in Paris in November, 1991. 14 categories of new products were identified for enlarging the trade between the two countries. The products identified include rubber hoses, cut and polished granite, toys and sports goods etc.

However, as far as Egypt is concerned no trade agreement has been signed recently between Indian and Egypt.

Issue of Bonds by State Government

6908. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the states which have sought approval from the Union Government for issue of bonds in order to complete their schemes; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government for completion of these schemes by the State Governments in case the approval is not accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Karnataka have approached Union Government during 1990-91 and 1991-92 for issue of bonds. As the scheme of Public Sector Bonds is restricted to only those undertaking whose entire equity is held by Central Government, approval has not been granted and

the State Governments are expected to meet the costs of any such Schemes from the resources available to them.

Tractor Loans to Farmers in Rajasthan

6909. SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total amount of loans advanced to farmers for purchases of tractors by banks in Rajasthan during the year 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that their information system generates data regarding total loans disbursed by all scheduled commercial banks for purchases of tractors and other agricultural implements and machinery and data separately for tractors is not generated. The total amount of loans disbursed towards tractor and agricultural implements and machinery by all scheduled commercial banks during the year ended June 1990 (latest available) in the State of Rajasthan amounted to Rs. 64 crores.

[English]

Export of Fruits and Vegetables to Gulf Countries

6910. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHY ZANTYE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fruits, vegetables, manufactured items fish and meat are exported to Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the quantity and value in foreign exchange of the above items exported to each of the Gulf countries during the last three years;

(c) the countries from which the Government are facing competition for the above exports; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to overcome the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The export of these items to Gulf countries was as under:—